

2017 - 025  
**BENZIE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**  
**Request for Support for Michigan Senate Bill 400 and Michigan House Bill 4651**  
**Amending the Emergency Telephone Enabling Act**

**WHEREAS**, Michigan House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 have been introduced in the Michigan Legislature, which would amend Public Act 32 of 1986 entitled the "Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act"; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills would amend the funding system for 9-1-1 so that all communication devices that have access to 9-1-1, including prepaid wireless devices, contribute equally to the funding of 9-1-1 operations; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills provide a stable funding source for the counties to support their migration to Next Generation 9-1-1 and ongoing operational levels of service for 9-1-1 to its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills afford the State and Counties collecting 9-1-1 fees a mechanism for court action should any service providers fail to collect and remit the fees; and

**WHEREAS**, these bills have a mechanism that provides the necessary checks and balances to ensure revenues generated are used for authorized expenditures for 9-1-1 services; and

**WHEREAS**, these authorized expenditures are limited to those directly related to receiving and processing 9-1-1 calls and the subsequent dispatching of responders via a public safety radio; and

**WHEREAS**, such limitation of expenditures has historically met the criteria established through the courts to define 9-1-1 surcharge as a fee for service directly related to telephone services; and

**WHEREAS**, any attempt to amend House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 for other State of Michigan general fund purposes not directly related to 9-1-1 may not meet the criteria of a fee for service and could be viewed as a tax increase for the residents of Benzie County.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Benzie County Board of Commissioners does hereby offer our support of House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 as introduced; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Benzie County Board of Commissioners opposes amending House Bill 4651 and Senate Bill 400 to include any additional State of Michigan taxes on telephone service customers under the guise of 9-1-1 surcharge; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that that copies of this resolution be submitted to Governor Richard Snyder, and all Senators and Representatives serving Benzie County.

Dated: July 25, 2017

  
Custer C. Carland, Chair

I, Dawn Olney, Clerk to the Benzie County Board of Commissioners, hereby do certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Benzie County Board of Commissioners on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

  
Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk